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S 19

# SEED RARITIES



SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT



An Offering of Seeds of Rare Plants  
for Late Spring and Summer

Sowing

REX. D. PEARCE

MERCHANTVILLE

NEW JERSEY

*Miss Muma*

U. S. Dept. of Agriculture,  
Washington,

D. C.

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★ JUL 7 1933 ★

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Bureau of Plant Industry  
Horticultural Crops & Diseases.



## PLEASE READ BEFORE ORDERING

Seeds will be forwarded as they are ready. All seed prices are post-paid and safe arrival is guaranteed. Please send cash with order, money order is preferred remittance form but checks are acceptable.

Seed is offered subject to arrival, although I expect to have nearly all sorts in hand when this list is mailed. I try to send out only good seeds, but I cannot control the conditions under which they are planted, and I do not guarantee the results, nor will I be in any way responsible for the crop. This is a primary condition of sale, and the placing of an order with me from this list by a customer constitutes an automatic acceptance of it.

The present list supplements, but does not replace, the offerings in Catalog No. 19 in its various editions. If you do not already have a copy of the Catalog, one will be gladly mailed you.

**REX. D. PEARCE**

**MERCHANTVILLE**

**NEW JERSEY**

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### CLIVIA MINIATA (a)

Bulb-like plants with heavy strap shaped leaves and showy clusters of "Amaryllis" flowers of the deepest and richest of possible oranges, these all through the spring and summer months. Clivias make excellent house plants, but unfortunately they have been too costly to be as widely known as they deserve. May be very easily grown from the large seeds. Two seeds for 25c; 5 for 50c.

### AFRICAN LILY OR AGAPANTHUS

The clusters of trumpet shaped flowers vary from silvery blue to richest indigo, from glossy white to sapphire overlays. Established plants will often throw hundreds of blooms in a season. May be grown in tubs, or directly in the open border and wintered in a light cellar. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c; ¼ oz. \$1.00.

### SOW AMARYLLIS SEED NOW

The large flowered hybrid Amaryllis is best propagated from seed, and early summer is the easiest time of the year to start it.

**Salmon Princess**—Large trumpets of rich, clear salmon pink. Will not come entirely true, but even the variations will be beautiful. 10 seed pkt. for 25c; 50 seeds for \$1.10; 100 seeds for \$2.00.

**White Monarch**—Magnificent trumpets of waxen whiteness on sturdy stems. The rarest Amaryllis, and the most desired. Seedlings will be mostly white, but some will show tintings. 5 seeds for 20c; 25 for 90c; 100 for \$3.25.

**Peerless Hybrids**—Seed saved only from giant flowered plants and should give blooms of a marvelous diversity of colors and markings, ranging from tinted white, through shades of pink and rose, to scarlet and deepest crimson. 15 seed pkt. for 25c; 50 seeds for 70c; 100 seeds for \$1.25; 250 seeds for \$3.00.

## THE SCARBOROUGH LILY

Coming from South Africa, where it is called the Berg Lily, *Vallota purpurea* owes the "Scarborough" part of its name to the fact that the first bulbs cultivated in England were washed ashore at Scarborough Head from the wreck of a Dutch ship. It is close to *Amaryllis*, but hardier. The large clustered flowers vary from pure bright scarlet to rich dark red, usually with white inner throat. Makes a famous potplant, or, planted deeply in sheltered places, is almost hardy outside. A new offering. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

## ORNAMENTAL CACTUS BLEND

From palest apple green to deep olive purple, dull or brightly burnished, and always armored in greater or less degree with intricate pikes and spines of varied hues, the Cacti offer in weird and diverse form, an ever interesting study. Add the charm of brilliant color in flower and fruit, the ease with which they come from seed, and their complete adaptability to the window garden conditions of the ordinary living room, and the reason for their wide and increasing popularity as house, border or rockery plants becomes self-evident. Seed offered in a wonderful blend of contrasting kinds. 35 seeds for 25c; 100 seeds for 60c; 500 seeds for \$2.50. See pages 55 and 74 of Catalog No. 19 for seed listings of separate and rare Cactus species.

## THE CALLA LILIES

The Calla Lilies come readily from seed and make splendid pot plants. They may also be grown in the summer garden.

**Zantedeschia Melanoleuca**—The Black and Yellow Calla; possibly the rarest species in cultivation. The flower or spathe is soft straw yellow, and the spadix pure white, both contrasting with the rich velvet-black at the flower base. 5 seeds for 25c; 12 seeds for 50c.

**Zantedeschia Aethiopica Devoniensis** — Snow-white flowers. This is the dwarf everblooming type to which the popular Godfrey variety belongs. Fragrant. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Zantedeschia Rehmanna**—The rare Pink Calla Lily. Rather dwarfer and smaller flowered than the White Calla but of alluring coloring, palest blush to pure rose. 7 seeds for 25c; 18 seeds for 50c.

**Zantedeschia Elliottiana**—The Golden Calla. Rich deep lustrous yellow, the individual blooms lasting for almost two weeks. A splendid species. 5 seeds for 20c; 14 seeds for 50c; 100 seeds for \$2.25.

**Zantedeschia Albo-maculata**—The Spotted Calla. The spathe or "flower" is pale cream with crimson blotch at base; the leaves arrow-shaped, bright green with white translucent spots. Summer flowering. 7 seeds for 20c; 18 seeds for 50c.

**Arum Pictum**—The Black or Painted Calla. The spathe is of a rich velvety violet, almost black, making an effective contrast foil for the brighter Callas. Hardy with protection. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Offer 8 A**—One pkt. each of the six for \$1.10.

## TRUE POINSETTIA

A really splendid plant when in full glory of its vivid live-coal flower-bracts. Makes a gorgeous specimen for the house, and grows quickly and easily from seed. This is the real Christmas Poinsettia. Do not confuse with so-called summer Poinsettia, a poor thing. 10 seed pkt. for 25c; 50 seeds for \$1.00; 100 seeds for \$1.75.

## THE CALAMONDIN ORANGE

A true Orange, with brightly colored acid fruits that may be used for orangeade. The waxen petaled flowers carry an exotic perfume. Makes a delightful tub or large pot plant. Seed cannot be shipped into citrus-growing states. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

## THE GLORY LILY

Gloriosa Superba. A twining plant of easy culture, giving many fine recurved lily-like flowers of golden orange, shading to brilliant scarlet. Grown indoors, or, for the garden, treat like Gladioli. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

## THE ORNAMENTAL ALLIUMS

For the border, the rockery, or the wild garden nothing can be more delightful than the bloom from these dainty hardy bulbs. They are easily grown from seeds, and the airy flower clusters are as diverse in form as in coloring. They are rich in lilac, lavender and purple hues, but some kinds are pure or tinted white, others yellow, pink, rosy red or amaranth, and one species carries about the purest blue of the garden. Mixed colors. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c;  $\frac{1}{8}$  oz. 65c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. \$1.10.

## UNUSUAL IRIS HYBRIDS

The most orchid-like of hardy flowers, and about the easiest to grow. For seeds of other Hybrid Strains and of separate Iris species, see pages 33 to 38 of Catalog 19.

**Iris Chrysofor**—A new June flowering group, with superb flowers in white, sulphur and gold to rich bronze, with many in shades of blue, lavender and purple. Long-lasting in water. Quick. Pkt. 25c; spec. pkg. 60c.

**Iris Dwarf Hybrids**—The earliest class, and the most dwarf, but the flowers, in blue, yellow, purple and white, are full size. For rockery or edging. Pkt. 20c; spec. pkg. 50c.

**Iris Watsoniana Hybrida**—A very pretty low-growing rockery strain, showing interesting color-variations in a wide range. Pkt. 25c.

**Iris Delta**—A group of natural hybrids discovered only a few years ago in the lower Mississippi delta area. Both flowers and plants are of unusual size and vigor, and the colorings cover the rainbow. They are particularly rich in pink, old rose, crimson and red-orange variants. Pkt. 30c; spec. pkg. 75c.

**Iris English (Xiphioides)**—A vigorous bulbous strain, with magnificent flowers like great orchids, in sapphire, old gold, smoky rose, tawny purple and violet crimson. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. \$1.25.

**Offer 125**—One pkt. each of the five for \$1.00.

## THE WINTER HARDY BEGONIA

*Begonia Evansiana* — An almost frost-proof tuberous-rooted species from the mountain peaks of Java. Winters in the open ground at Philadelphia, and is said to carry over with protection of mulching at Ottawa. Makes a most handsome branching plant to two feet, loaded with large flesh-pink flowers. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

## EREMURUS (c)

Magnificent plants with majestic flower spikes 4 to 8 feet high. The myriads of flowers are like small stars. They come in white and in varied shades of pink, rose, yellow, copper and orange. Slow growers, but well worth waiting for. Mixed colors. 25 seeds for 20c; 100 seeds for 65c.

## TEN EASY LILIES

In this assortment all of the varieties and species are of the easiest culture, kinds that ordinarily germinate quickly and grow strongly. They are recommended for the beginner but are worth growing by anyone, no matter how experienced. For full descriptions of these and forty-two other Lily species, see Catalog 19.

*Lilium Cernum*

*Lilium Henryi*

*Lilium Phil. Formosanum*

*Lilium Tenuifolium*

*Lilium Wilmottiae*

*Lilium Golden Gleam*

*Lilium Maximowiczii*

*Lilium Longiflorum*

*Lilium Concolor*

*Lilium Regale*

Offer No. 49—One pkt. each of the ten for \$1.75.

## WINTER HARDY CACTI

Several Cactus species are thoroughly hardy out of doors in the North, even into Canada.

*Opuntia Opuntia*—Thick green branching pads, sparsely dotted with spine clusters. Almost iron-clad hardness. In flower it is one of the most beautiful of Cacti, with blooms of clear pure yellow, like single roses. Semi-dwarf. 25 seeds for 20c; 100 seeds for 70c.

*Mammillaria Vivipara*—A pretty species with globe or cushion shaped stems, covered with protruding white spined knobs, that are sometimes grouped together to form large mounds. Dainty pink flowers, followed by brown fruits. Very hardy. 10 seeds for 15c; 50 seeds for 60c.

*Opuntia Polycantha*—Robust branching pads, armoured with long silvery white spines. Pale lemon flowers, sometimes shaded red. Will stand forty degrees below zero. 15 seeds for 20c; 50 seeds for 60c.

Collection—One pkt. each of the three for 45c.

## THE TURFING DAISY (a)

The turfing daisy makes a close densely tufted growth of handsome, dark green, finely cut foliage and may be used for carpeting dry barren places where grass will not grow. It thrives in poor soil and even under trees, or on sloping banks in either sun or shade. In summer it is starred with daisy flowers, but these may be clipped with a mower set a little high, if you do not care for them. Perennial, and quite hardy. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 40c.

## BORDER TREASURES

If you want to add enduring charm to the perennial border, try some of these little known but splendid kinds. Winter hardy at Philadelphia unless noted. Sow them now.

**Anoda Hastata**—Most showy tall perennial with decorative foliage and large flowers, rich blue to lilac pink. Rare. Pkt. 30c.

**Chrysopsis Mariana**—Golden Aster. Richest yellow flowers, like splendid Asters, all through the summer and fall months. Very fine. Thirty inches. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Sabbatia Stellaris**—Rose of Plymouth. Purest pink flowers with lemon yellow inner star, outlined with carmine. Rare. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Nuttallia Decapetala**—Branched two-foot plants with fragrant ten-petaled flowers, ivory white with golden stamens. Hardy biennial. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Rhexia Mariana**—Meadow Beauty. Large royal purple flowers on two foot plants. Highly recommended, beautiful, hardy and easily established. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 65c.

**Rock Spray**—*Holodiscus Discolor*. Great arching sprays of perfumed lacy bloom of the color of new ivory. A splendid ornamental, easily handled. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 60c.

**Asclepias Tuberosa**—Butterfly flower. Vivid rich burnt orange bloom. Butterflies like it,—so will you. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Dielytra Eximia**—Plume Bleeding Heart. Rose colored heart shaped flowers are carried in graceful sprays above the finely cut glossy leaves. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. \$1.

**Cassia Medsgeri**—Golden yellow pea-shaped flowers with chocolate anthers. Pinnate leaflets, sensitive to the touch. Very good. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 35c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 50c.

**Crape Myrtle**—The rosy pink flowers, in clusters, have a crispy crinkly silken texture like crape paper. Needs mulching north. A splendid plant, of rare beauty when in flower. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Tricyrtis Hirta**—White flowers dotted with purple are carried in the axils or each leaf. Almost a Lily. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Asphodelus Luteus**—Golden Asphodel. Tall spikes of richly yellow and fragrant bloom. Easy. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Houstonia Purpurea**—Quaker Lady. Deep lavender starry bloom in late spring. A charming flower in mass planting. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Hemerocallis Peerless Blend**—Expanded trumpet flowers in shades of pale lemon, gold, tawny orange and copper. Saved from a wonderful collection. Pkt. 15c; spec. pkg. 35c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 75c.

**Yucca Glauca**—Three foot spikes, closely filled with drooping creamy white bells. Long narrow sword shaped leaves. Makes a short trunk, which lies prostrate. Early. Pkt. 15c; special pkg. 40c.

**Pardanthus Sinensis**—Blackberry Lily. Iris foliage and three foot branching stems, bearing orange-russet, crimson dotted flowers, followed by seed clusters like great glossy blackberries. Pkt. 15c; spec. pkg. 35c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 75c.

**Offer 127**—One pkt. each of the above for \$3.00.



## FOR THE ROCKERY

Alpines, American and otherwise, together with varied plants of field and woodland, that will qualify for the rock garden.

**Romanzoffia Sitchensis**—A delight in any rockery, green as an emerald after months of winter weather. Attractive little white blossoms. Likes a bit of shade. Pkt. 15c; spec. pkg. 35c.

**Lewisia Howelli**—Crinkled rosettes of gray succulent leaves. Fairly large flowers, clear pink to apricot rose, sometimes orange streaked. Hardy and beautiful. Pkt. 20c; spec. pkg. 50c.

**Dryas Octapetala**—A mat-forming alpine with tiny evergreen oak-like leaves. Prolific cream yellow bloom in spring. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Dodecatheon Meadia**—Shooting Star. Pretty rose-colored flowers with yellow anthers. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Sedums Mixed**—Oddly shaped and hued perennial succulents with leaf formations in varied peculiar forms. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Allium Stellatum**—Airy clusters of pink stars. Very pretty. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Callirhoe Involucrata**—A half-procumbent plant with cup shaped blooms of fierce purple crimson. As easy to grow as it is striking in appearance, blooming the first year. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 60c.

**Saxifraga Encrusted Sorts**—The leaves show varicolored or silvery encrustations of mineral, giving a sparkling effect. Clustered flowers in many beautiful shades. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Ceanothus Procumbens**—A dense little evergreen creeper with leaves like holly. The flowers, in spring, are dainty lavender balls. Pkt. 35c; special pkg. 60c.

**Primula Red Hugh**—A hardy Primrose with whorls of vivid vermilion flowers. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Primula Cockburniana**—A radiant Primrose with flowers of varied hues; from raspberry pink to autumn russet. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 65c.

**Sempervivum Hardy Blend**—Thick stubby leaves in compact rosettes, evergreen, but often red-tinted or colored with silvery cobweb filaments. Various colored flowers. Easy. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Viola Pedata**—Birds-foot Violet. A lovely species with long stemmed richest blue purple flowers. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Viola Pedunculata**—Golden Violet. Rich yellow with yellow brown lines toward the center. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Gaultheria Procumbens**—True Wintergreen. An evergreen creeper with aromatic foliage and long hanging cherry colored berries of spicy flavor. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c; ¼ oz. 90c.

**Soldanella Alpina**—Jewel of the Alps. Nodding deeply fringed violet blue flowers. Rare and delightful. Pkt. 30c.

**Sisyrinchium Grandiflorum** — Satiny saucer-shaped flowers of royal purple crimson. Rarely rose or ivory forms may appear. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Offer 126**—One pkt. each of the above for \$3.50.

## TRUE WILD FLOWER BLEND

I have blended the seeds of more than one hundred different kinds of Wild Flowers, collected separately, to make up this mixture. Included among them are Fringed Gentian, Wintergreen, Windflower, Meadow Beauty, Birdsfoot and Golden Violets, Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Golden Aster, Wild Sweet William, Vernonia, Eupatorium, Blue Bell, Dutchman's Breeches, Wild Rose, Datura, Star Flower, Chinese Houses, Quaker Ladies, Columbine, Sabbatia and many others as delightful. While chiefly American, a few kinds from temperate climates of other continents are included. The annuals in the mixture will make a good showing the first season, the perennial kinds in the second and succeeding years. Wonderful for naturalizing, but I recommend some preparation of the ground, and of course sowing in beds and transplanting, will give best results. Remember, some kinds germinate in just a few days, others may take weeks or months. Do not disturb too soon. Not less than  $\frac{1}{8}$  oz. sold.  $\frac{1}{8}$  oz. 25c;  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. 40c; 1 oz. \$1.50;  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. \$5.00.

### A FEW WILD FLOWERS

Try a wild flower meadow, or the enrichment of a fence line.

**Aster Spectabilis**—Largest flowered and richest blue, as well as rarest, of the hardy asters. Semi-dwarf. Showy. Pkt. 25c.

**Silene Stellata**—Starry Champion. Delicately fringed white flowers in graceful feathery panicles. A lovely thing. Pkt. 25c; special pkg. 60c.

**Lathyrus Maritimus**—Wild Sweet-pea. Spreading tangles of attractive pinnate foliage, jeweled with swaying clusters of purple flowers. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Baptisia Tinctoria**—Bushy plants with deep yellow pea-like flowers. Pkt. 25c.

**Mertensia Virginica** — Bluebell. Silk-petaled drooping bells, changing from lilac pink in the bud, through opaline azure, to violet as the flowers age. Pkt. 20c; special pkg. 50c.

**Sanguinaria Canadensis**—Delightful flowers of early spring, snowy white or pink tinged, with golden anthers. Red sap. Pkt. 25c.

**Solidago Odora**—Spice Golden Rod. Swaying butter-yellow plumes. Early. Aromatic. Pkt. 15c.

**Gerardia Purpurea**—Fairy Foxglove. Pretty oddly-shaped lilac flowers, dotted with purple, and with golden anthers. Pkt. 25c.

**Achlys Triphylla**—The Vanilla Leaf. Pretty little white flowers in spikes. The drying leaves gives off a lovely and delicate vanilla fragrance that will fill the house as with perfume. Often used for sachets. Pkt. 15c.

**Offer 128**—One pkt. each of the above for \$1.50.

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FOR YOUR FRIENDS: If you are interested in this list, likely certain of your friends would be also. I shall appreciate receiving their names and addresses, and will include extra seeds, my choice, in filling your order, as recompense.

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